

REMARKS

Claims 1, 4, 6, 9, 10, 12, and 14 have been amended to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention. Claims 2, 3, 11, 13 and 15 have been cancelled without prejudice. Thus, claims 1, 4-10, 12, 14 and 16-18 remain pending in the present application. No new matter has been added. In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all of the presently pending claims are allowable.

The Examiner has objected to claim 10 because of informalities. *Office Action*, paragraph 2. Claim 10 has been amended to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention. Thus, applicants respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw the objection to claim 10.

The Examiner has rejected each of the pending claims under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,085,030 to Whitehead *et al.* ("the Whitehead reference"). *Office Action*, paragraph 3. The Whitehead reference discloses a component server architecture that enables consumer nodes of a network to interact with software components and services throughout the network.

Independent claim 1 of the present invention recites "creating a producer component including a data object and a component module, the component module including information identifying the data object and an object handler to interact with the data object." As described in the specification, each producer component includes a data object and a component module (e.g., an IDB+ module). The IDB+ module is generated to include information about the data objects and to include an object handler to interact with the data object. Claim 1 further recites "registering the component module with an intermediary module." Thus, it is the IDB+ module which is registered with the intermediary module.

In contrast, the Whitehead reference does not teach nor disclose the creation of a component module which contains information identifying a data object, the creation of a module which contains an object handler to interact with a data object or the registering of such a component module with the intermediary module. The Whitehead reference teaches that the components are directly registered with the component registry. The creation of the component module and the registration of the component module with the intermediary module in the present invention adds a layer of abstraction which allows the consumer components transparent access to the data objects.

Similarly, claim 10 recites “a component module including information identifying a first one of the components and an object handler to interact with a data object, the first one of the components including the data object” and “a register configured to register the component module.” Claim 14 recites “each of the producer components including a data object and a component module, the component module including information identifying the data object and an object handler to interact with the data object.”

Thus, the Whitehead reference neither teaches nor suggests a system where a component module is created with identifying information for a data object, the component module further including an object handler to interact with the data object and where the component module is registered with an intermediary module. Accordingly, applicants respectfully submit that the Examiner should withdraw the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) of independent claims 1, 10 and 14 and all the claims depending therefrom.

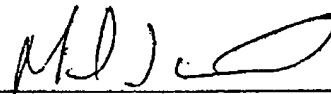
CONCLUSION

In view of the amendments and remarks submitted above, the Applicants respectfully submit that the present case is in condition for allowance. All issues raised by the Examiner have been addressed, and a favorable action on the merits is thus earnestly requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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